Functioning of AICTE

953. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a question has been raised on the functioning of All India Council for Technical Education on various issues;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it also a fact that some colleges get affiliation very easily and some reputed colleges are not getting it; and

(d) if so, what action Government would take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Government has been receiving representations on the functioning of All Indian Council for Technical Education (AICTE) on various issues like:

(i) Delay in grant of approval,

(ii) Restrictive policy in approval of new courses and expansion in intake of existing courses,

(iii) Lack of uniformity in applying norms and standards in grant of approval,

(iv) Delay in payment of M. Tech. Scholarship,

(v) Lack of action by AICTE on complaints against institutions relating to malpractices in admissions, and

(vi) Irregularities in Regional Offices.

(c) Affiliation is granted by universities and not by AICTE

(d) Does not arise.

Introduction of sex education in schools

954. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether much debate is going on about introduction of sex education in schools;

(b) what are all the plus and minus points of this issue; and

(c) what is the policy of Government and its initiatives on this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) Ministry of Human Resource Development in collaboration with National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) has launched "Adolescence Education Programme (AEP)" for implementation by all the State and Union Territory Governments.

The framework of the Programme incorporates three major concerns of adolescence; (i) Process of Growing up during adolescence, (ii) Prevention of HIV/AIDS and (iii) Prevention of Substance (Drug) Abuse. The programme is meant for the students of secondary and higher secondary schools and is an effort to help the students acquire life skills so that they